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The Newsletter of the National Conference on Weights and Measures
<http://www.nist.gov/ncwm>

Management Changes in the Office of Weights and Measures

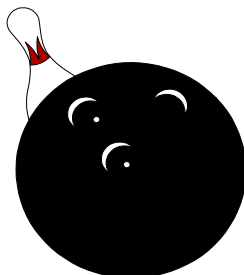
At the end of April 2000, the Office of Weights and Measures experienced some management changes. Gil Ugiansky, Chief of the Office of Weights and Measures, was promoted to the position of Deputy Director, Office of Measurement Services. Henry Oppermann, Deputy Chief of NIST's Global Standards Program, who is well known in the weights and measures community, took over as Chief of OWM. In addition, Ken Butcher, who was Group Leader of the OWM Laws and Regulations Group and Technical Advisor to the NCWM Administration & Public Affairs Committee, accepted a position in the NIST Technical Standards Activities Program where he will work on international weights and measures standards.

85th Annual Meeting Scheduled for Richmond, VA

Mark your calendars to attend NCWM's 85th Annual Meeting in Richmond, VA, from July 16-20, 2000. The meeting, which will be held at the Omni Richmond Hotel, is just blocks away from the James River. The Annual Meeting is the last

step in the NCWM's due process and gives voting members an opportunity to influence voting on important issues.

Noted for beautiful Southern Mansions and Civil War History, Richmond is just a short drive to many attractions such as Colonial Williamsburg, Jamestown, and Busch Gardens. Bring the entire family because you will have plenty of opportunities to explore the city! The special event on Wednesday evening will feature a bowling party with a traditional southern BBQ buffet.



Registration brochures have been mailed to all members. The early-bird meeting registration rate, which expires June 15, 2000, is \$200 for members and \$275 for nonmembers. Hotel rates are \$115/Single, \$125/Double, \$140/Triple and \$155/Quad. The deadline for hotel reservations is June 23, 2000. To reserve your hotel room, call the Omni Richmond Hotel at 804-344-7000 and mention the NCWM meeting to assure the Conference rates. For further information about the meeting, contact NCWM Headquarters at 240-632-9454.

Publication 16 - 85th Annual Meeting Committee Reports is currently on the Internet. Copies were mailed to NCWM members on May 10, 2000.

**REMINDER: NCWM's
phone number is
240-632-9454**

A Message from the New OWM Chief Henry Oppermann

I wish to express my warmest greetings to everyone in the weights and measures community. I am very pleased to be back in weights and measures and look forward to renewing old friendships and making new ones. Many things have changed since I left weights and measures in 1994. The National Type Evaluation Program (NTEP) is being transferred to the National Conference on Weights and Measures. This is a major project, and the goal is to make the transition as smooth and seamless as possible with minimum disruption in services. In the short time that I have been back, I have focused on understanding the many changes, meeting with the NIST Program staff, seeking input and advice from many people regarding their issues, working to understand the many activities, and setting some initial priorities. I look forward to meeting with as many people as possible to obtain the different views from our many customers and hope that you will be forthcoming with your ideas and recommendations.

My experience in Mexico and in the NIST Global Standards Program to help industry gain access to markets and to overcome, reduce, and prevent technical barriers to trade has been very beneficial. The work in Mexico gave me a greater understanding and appreciation for the problems industry faces as a result of technical regulations and conformity assessment. The experience also emphasized the importance of an effective legal metrology system. We are fortunate to have a comprehensive and effective infrastructure for legal metrology in the U.S. It is critically important that we work together to promote an effective and successful system to support the commercial measurement system, both nationally and internationally. I continue to be impressed with the work done through the State Laboratory Program and the State metrologists to upgrade measurement services and measurement capabilities using the latest technology to facilitate training and increase efficiency.

In my meetings with the NCWM leadership, they have clearly indicated their desire and commitment to improve the effectiveness of weights and measures. I know that industry works constantly with State, local, and Federal officials to establish reasonable controls that provide the necessary safeguards for consumers, but we must allow them the freedom and flexibility to meet their customers' needs and to incorporate new technology.

I am also impressed with the dedication and commitment of the staff in the Office of Weights and Measures to provide the technical services and support needed by the weights and measures community.

Again, I am happy to be back in weights and measures. I look forward to cooperative and successful working relationships with all of you.

S&T Proposes Taximeter Security Vote

The S&T Committee proposes a voting Item 354-2 modifying Taximeter Code paragraph S.5. Provisions for Security to permit several means of security when taximeters are removable from the vehicle. The "slide-mount" installation allows easy removal of taximeters for safe overnight storage; however, this configuration conflicts with the integrity of the measurement process. The current proposal in Publication 16 modifies S.5. to recognize security seals and electronic links or other approved means of security such as audit trails.

Although Handbook 44 recognizes audit trails in G-S.8. Provisions for Sealing Electronic Adjustable Components and in other code sections, no specific audit trail requirements exist in the Taximeter Code. NEWMA believes that because of taximeter complexities, any language to address audit trails in the Taximeter Code should be fully developed. The Committee acknowledged the complexities of Taximeters and the importance of adequately addressing new technology. Therefore, the Committee plans to separate Item 354-2 into two parts. Part A contains the original NEWMA proposal, and Part B includes provisions for audit trails to facilitate review of the issues.

News from NCWM Headquarters

• NCWM Board of Directors Approves Dues Increase

- Government \$50.00
- Industry \$65.00

At their April 2000 meeting, the BOD approved changes in dues and the membership year, which will now be October 1 - September 30 to coincide with the association's fiscal year. As a result of this change, members will benefit from 3 months of free membership. Dues invoices will be mailed to current members on July 1, 2000.

• NTEP Transition is on Target

OWM and NCWM are working together to ensure a smooth transition of the NTEP program. OWM staff will be transferring the administrative functions to NCWM's headquarters staff.

• Position of NTEP Director is Announced

The BOD recently approved the vacancy announcement for the position of NTEP Director. All members received a copy by mail. To obtain an application, contact Bev Levy at 301- 258-9210.

• Limited Exhibit Space is Still Available at Annual Meeting

A limited number of tabletop exhibit spaces are available at the 2000 Annual Meeting in Richmond, VA. A 6-foot table costs \$150 for members and \$200 for nonmembers. To obtain an application for the space, contact Lynn DiTizio at 240-632-9454.

OWM Initiates Project to Put State W&M Laws on Internet

The Office of Weights and Measures (OWM) has begun a three-phased project to put individual State Weights and Measures laws and regulations on the Internet. Phase I of the project involved locating the individual States' Weights and Measures Laws that are already available on the Internet and linking to them. Currently, the OWM website links to the Weights and Measures Laws of 27 States. During Phase II, OWM staff will contact those States that do not have their Weights and Measures Laws on the Internet and request paper or electronic copies of the Laws. The final part, Phase III, will be to link to or obtain all of the State laws and regulations concerning weights and measures and put them on the OWM website. To add a State's website address, contact Janet Land at janet.land@nist.gov.

New Items on the Internet

Look on the Internet under the "meetings" section of www.nist.gov/ncwm to find Publication 16 - Committee Reports for the 85th NCWM Annual Meeting.

Other new items on the Internet include:

(1) NTEP Training Presentation and Classroom Worksheet which is located under "Training" in the "General Section" of the OWM homepage, and

(2) Retail Motor- Fuel Inspection Program Checklist, which is located under the "Publications and Programs" General Section of the NCWM homepage.

Calendar of Events

2000

June 12-16

Handbook 133
Philadelphia, PA
Contact: Tom Coleman 301- 975-4868

June 19-23

Ohio - NTP Course 601 - Package Checking
Canton, Ohio
Contact: Ken Wheeler 614-728-6290

June 26-29

International Society of Weighing & Measurement (ISWM)
81st Technical Conference and 2000 Exhibition at the Rio Suite Hotel & Casino
Las Vegas, NV
Contact: Mimi Harlan 770 868-5300

July 10-14

Ohio - NTP Course 203 - Medium Capacity Scales
Reynoldsburg, Ohio
Contact: Ken Wheeler 614-728-6290

July 16-20

NCWM 85th Annual Meeting, Omni Hotel,
Richmond, VA
Contact: NCWM Headquarters,
240-632-9454

August 21-23

National Coal Weighing & Coal Sampling Association
Hilton Suites Lexington
245 Lexington Green Circle
Lexington, KY 40503
606-271-4000
(Room Rate \$89+TAX)
Contact: Richard DeSollar 217-529-1725

August 28-September 1

Ohio - NTP Course 206 - Vehicle and Axle-Load Scales
Southeast Ohio
Contact: Ken Wheeler 614-728-6290

September 24-28

Western Weights and Measures Association (WWMA)
Cathedral Hill Hotel
1101 Van Ness Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94109
(Room Rate- Retirees-\$109 including tax; Government \$129 including tax; others \$147 + TAX)
Contacts: Dave Frieders and Amy Kiernan
415 776-8200

September 25-29

Ohio - NTP Course 206 - Vehicle and Axle-Load Scales
Northwest Ohio
Contact: Ken Wheeler 614-728-6290

October 8-11

Southern Weights & Measures (SWMA)
Radisson Hotel & Suites
Austin, TX
512-478-9611
(Room rate \$70.00)
www.radisson.com/austintx

October 23-27

Ohio - NTP Course 206 - Vehicle and Axle-Load Scales
Reynoldsburg, Ohio
Contact: Ken Wheeler 614-728-6290

October 30-November 3

Ohio - NTP Course 206 - Vehicle and Axle-Load Scales
Canton, Ohio
Contact: Ken Wheeler 614-728-6290

November 7-11

Scale Manufacturers Association (SMA)
Fall Meeting
The Mills House Hotel
Charleston, South Carolina.
Contact: Terrie Spivey 904-871-4544

November 13-17

Ohio - NTP Course 206 - Vehicle and Axle-Load Scales
Wilmington, Ohio
Contact: Ken Wheeler 614-728-6290

W&Mtoday

This newsletter is published quarterly for the National Conference on Weights and Measures to acquaint members with its activities and services and with other items of interest.

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